Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) and (*b*) Travancore country boats frequent the Port of Cochin to transport merchandise to places in Travancore. According to canal Rule No. 6 these boats are not liable to take out licenses in Cochin provided they do not ply exclusively in Cochin waters.

(*c*) No answer in view of answer to (*a*) and (*b*).

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know, Sir, the nature of that rule No. 6.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Rule No. 6 is, an exemption rule, to the effect that certain boats licensed in Travancore need not take out licenses in Cochin State, provided they do not ply exclusively in Cochin waters.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Don't you get the same reciprocity in Travancore?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* In British India?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There also.

TEXTILE MILLS—PARTICULARS OF EMPLOYEES

293. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of persons employed in each of the two textile mills namely, Cochin Textiles and Sitaram at the close of 1113 and 1114 excluding the clerical department;

(*b*) their sex;

(*c*) the number of women employed below the age of 18 and above the age of 18;

(*d*) the average minimum wage that a woman or a girl gets for a day;

(*e*) the average minimum wage that a man or a boy gets for a day;

(*f*) the maximum hours of work that a mill hand works a day?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

Sita Ram Mills

	1113	**1114**
(*a*)	1648.	1649.

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Cochin Textiles

715. 1042.

Sita Ram Mills

	1113	1114
(*b*) Males	1283.	1249.
Females	365.	400.

Cochin Textiles

	1113	1114
Males	542.	745.
Females	173.	297.

Sita Ram Mills

1113	1114
(*c*) 36; 329.	42; 358.

Cochin Textiles

1113	1114
13; 160.	15; 282.

(*d*) and (*e*) The question is not clear. However, the minimum wage any worker gets for a day in the two Mills is reported to be as follows.—

	Sita Ram Mills	Cochin Textiles
Males	.. 0—6—0	.. 0—5—6
Females	.. 0—4—0	.. 0—3—6
Children	.. No children	.. 0—2—6

(*f*) 9 hours.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* It is stated that children are not employed in the Sitaram Mills? Am I right?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* That is the information we have received.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Are children employed in the Cochin Textiles?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* There appears to be some disparity among the wages paid in the Sitaram Mills and the Cochin Textiles. May I know, whether the Government can take any action for raising the wages?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There are several considerations coming in here. I do not think it will be proper for the Government to interfere in this matter.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is this nine hours' work continuous?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No. There is an interval of half an hour.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is there no Government control of the Mill, Sir?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is there not a large investment of money by the Government in the Cochin Textiles?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There is not a single pie of the Government in the Mill. All their shares have been sold out.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is not the Director of Industries a director of the company now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I think so.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* It is stated here "is reported to be as follows". Have the Government verified the report?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It was reported to me by my subordinate officers.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, what will be the maximum wage that a worker can get?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There is no maximum wage. The Engineers will be drawing Rs. 400 and Rs. 500.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether the Law prohibits the entertainment of children in factories?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I do not think the law exactly prohibits their entertainment. There are some restrictions.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Has the Government any control in regulating the wages of workers?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* May I know, Sir, whether these children also are working at the rate of nine hours?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I do not think so.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the age at which the children are allowed to be entertained in the factories ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)* It is provided in the Factory Act.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know at what time the factory begins work ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The Cochin Textiles work for 22 hours, but in shifts.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether the children work there for nine hours daily ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I shall enquire, and do the needful in enforcing the rules under the Factory Act.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are women and children employed in night shifts ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Do not the Government think that some control should be exercised in the working of factories ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There is already control by the Government in the exercise of authority vested in them by the rules under the Factory Act, and we take care to enforce these rules also properly.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: കൊച്ചിൻ ടെക്സ്റ്റയിൽസിൽ കുട്ടികളുണ്ടെന്നും സീതാറാം മില്ലിൽ കുട്ടികളില്ലെന്നും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. ടെക്സ്റ്റയിൽസിൽ ഉണ്ടെന്നു പറയുന്ന കുട്ടികളും ഒൻപതു മണിക്കൂർവീതം വേല ചെയ്യുണ്ടോ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷമേനോൻ: നോട്ടീസ് വേണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: കൂലിനിരക്ക് അഞ്ചര അണ, ആറണ എന്നുള്ളതു മാക്സിമമോ മിനിമമോ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷമേനോൻ: മിനിമം.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. ടി: പുരുഷന്മാർക്ക് ആറണയും, സ്ത്രീകൾക്ക് ര് അണയും കൂലിയെന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. പുരുഷന്മാർക്ക് നാലണകൂലി കൊടുക്കുന്ന വല്ല കമ്പനികളുമുണ്ടോ എന്ന് ഗവൺമെൻറിനറിയാമോ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷമേനോൻ: നോട്ടീസ് വേണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഈ കൂലിനിരക്കിനെസംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള ഇൻഫർമേഷൻ ഗവൺമെൻറിനു് എവിടെനിന്നു കിട്ടി ?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Through proper enquiry from the management of the company as well as through enquiries among the employees.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* As a matter of fact, I am quite sure that a great number of coolies are getting only Rs. 4—4—0 per month in the Cochin Textiles.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I do not know. That statement must be verified.

TEXTILE MILLS—PROVISION FOR WATER SUPPLY AND LATRINES

294. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what is the quantity of water stored in the Mills for drinking purposes for the Mill hands or the convenience made for the same (Cochin Textiles and Sitaram);

(*b*) how many rooms are there in the latrines for answering the calls of nature?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* (*a*) Taps are provided in all sections of the various departments in the Cochin Textiles and drinking cans are also supplied.

Four taps are provided in the Sitaram Spinning and Weaving Mills at the corners of the buildings. Cans are also supplied. The quantity of water supplied varies with the demand.

(*b*) Sitaram 30 seats.
Cochin Textiles 12 seats.

The Management of the Cochin Textiles have been instructed to construct more seats for the convenience of their workers.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know what is the quantity of water supplied per day.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I can only say that sufficient water is supplied. There are no meters put up there. In the absence of meters, we cannot say how many gallons are supplied. The supply varies with the demand. During the hot season there is greater demand than during the monsoon season.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* What was the original wages when the Sitaram Mills were started?

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